

lective defence and in the close collaboration of NATO members on both sides of the Atlantic.

My Government will continue to contribute to the development of the Commonwealth ties which are of major importance to the free world and to the improvement of relations between the continents. My Prime Minister will attend the forthcoming Conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers which will discuss, among other things, the expansion of trade and the establishment of a Commonwealth secretariat.

My ministers attach great importance to Canada's neighbourly relationship with the United States and to the development of practical, mutually beneficial arrangements within that relationship. You will be asked to approve a resolution concerning the important agreement on the automobile industry recently concluded with the United States.

Members of the House of Commons:

My ministers believe that it is imperative to reform the procedures of the House of Commons in order that it may accomplish the large volume of work required to meet the needs of the Canadian people in modern times. My ministers therefore will submit to you proposals for reform, based both on the valuable work of your committee on procedure and organization and on my Government's study of the procedures which, in the Parliaments at Westminster and elsewhere, have enabled effective debate and criticism to be combined with effective dispatch of public business.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

My ministers will continue their policy of promoting the strength and unity of the Canadian Confederation. This policy has made possible the achievement and reinforcement on a nation-wide basis of programs, in pensions and in other fields, which would not have been attainable but for better procedures of consultation and concerted action with due regard for the federal character of our country. My ministers will continue to improve the procedures and practices involved in the federal relationship so that all Canadians may feel equally served by Confederation.

After the appropriate provincial concurrence has been signified, you will be asked to approve an Address to the Queen to provide that the Constitution of Canada may be amended in Canada by the procedures which have been agreed between my Government and the Governments of all the Provinces.

You will be asked to authorize my Government to provide that "O Canada" shall be the National Anthem of Canada and that "God Save the Queen" shall be recognized as the Royal Anthem in Canada.

Our country is achieving a high rate of economic growth. Trade is expanding. With growing industrialization, Canadians are enjoying rapidly increasing employment opportunities; incomes and living standards are rising; the number of people out of work has been reduced to lower levels than for many years.

All the great potentialities of our economy are not, however, being realized. The talents of some of our people are wasted because of poverty, illness, inadequate education and training, inequality in opportunities for work. To combat these problems, to improve the opportunities of people who are now at a disadvantage, is to put new power into economic expansion and to enhance the unity of our country.

My Government therefore is developing a program for the full utilization of our human resources and the elimination of poverty among our people. It will include improved measures for regional development, the re-employment and training of workers, the re-development of rural areas, the assistance of needy people, the renewal of areas now blighted and congested in our cities, and the establishment of new opportunities for young Canadians. Besides strengthening and broadening measures within the federal sphere of responsibility, the plan will be designed to concert them more effectively with provincial programs. Because of the importance of this plan, my Prime Minister will take direct responsibility for its co-ordination, assisted by a special secretariat. My Government will propose the calling of a special federal-provincial conference to seek full co-operation and co-ordination with policies of the provinces.

As one of the major elements in this plan, my Government's area development program, which has already been of substantial assistance to industrial expansion in areas of high unemployment, will be expanded, in consultation with the provinces, to other areas where incomes are low. You will be asked to approve measures to aid industrial expansion in these areas and to help people to take full advantage of such improved employment opportunities.

My government will also propose improved measures to assist the re-employment of workers displaced by automation or affected